

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 AF-06

ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 FEA-01

AID-05 CEQ-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04

L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 PM-04 OES-05 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05

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R 261945Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5587

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OCON, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: FOURTH MEETING OF UNESCO/MAB INTERNATIONAL  
COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC): FIRST WEEK SUMMARY

SUMMARY: FIRST WEEK OF ICC MEETING TAKEN UP WITH  
SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL  
ACTIVITIES IN EACH OF THE MAB PROJECT AREAS. EVIDENT  
THAT NUMBER OF COUNTRIES HAVE INITIATED A RANGE OF  
PROJECTS WITH PLANS FOR CONSIDERABLE EXPANSION AND  
INTEGRATION OF FURTHER EFFORTS IN COMING YEAR.  
SUMMARIZED DISCUSSIONS FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

1. PROJECT 1 - TROPICAL AND FOREST ECOSYSTEMS. IVORY  
COAST DESCRIBED A REGIONAL PROGRAM, CENTERED IN THE  
IVORY COAST, THAT INVOLVES 12 NATIONS IN AFRICA AND  
EUROPE. OTHER AFRICAN NATIONS (SENEGAL AND ZAIRE)  
FURTHER SUPPORTED THE PROGRAM, AND FRANCE AND ITALY '  
DESCRIBED THEIR PARTICIPATION. THIS PROGRAM IS ONE OF  
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THE BEST REGIONAL PROGRAMS IN MAB AND CAN USE FURTHER

EXPERTISE IN SEVERAL ADDITIONAL AREAS.

2. CANADA DESCRIBED AN AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN NIGERIA, WHICH CANADIANS SUPPORTING. SIERRE LEONE AND OTHER NEARBY AFRICAN NATIONS ARE ALSO PARTICIPATING.

3. INDONESIA AND BRAZIL DESCRIBED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS WHERE TROPICAL FORESTS ARE BEING CLEARED FOR SETTLEMENT OF PEOPLE FROM CROWDED AREAS.

4. CUBA, MEXICO, AND PERU DESCRIBED FOREST ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS AND PLANS FOR PROGRAMS IN LATIN AMERICA. PHILIPPINES DESCRIBED ACTIVITIES ON THE ISLAND OF MINDORO AND PLANS FOR A REGIONAL PROGRAM WITH INDONESIA.

5. UNEP REPRESENTATIVE REAFFIRMED THE INTENT OF HIS AGENCY IN FUNDING MAB PROJECTS. HE SAID THAT UNEP HAS LIMITED FUNDS AND CAN ONLY PROVIDE THESE AS A CATALYST IN FUNDING KEY PILOT PROGRAMS. THESE PROJECTS SHOULD BE SPECIFIC IN NATURE AND SCIENTIFICALLY SOUND.

6. U.S., PHILIPPINES, AND OTHERS ASKED THE SECRETARIAT FOR BETTER PROCEDURES FOR PREPARING PROGRAMS FOR MAB APPROVAL AND UNEP FUNDING. U.S. FURTHER URGED IMPROVED PREPARATION OF REGIONAL PROJECT PROPOSALS TO AID MAB AND UNEP IN SETTING PRIORITIES.

7. PROJECT 2 - TEMPERATE AND MEDITERRANEAN FORESTS. THE SWEDISH DELEGATE DESCRIBED A REGIONAL, SCANDINAVIAN PROGRAM ON BOREAL FORESTS. USSR, U.S. AND CANADA EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS 7-YEAR PROGRAM ON BOREAL FOREST ECOSYSTEMS.

8. A SIMILAR REGIONAL PROGRAM ON MEDITERRANEAN FORESTS IS BEING DEVELOPED BY FRANCE, YUGOSLAVIA, SPAIN, GREECE, ITALY, AND OTHER MEDITERRANEAN NATIONS. ITALY URGED GREATER EFFORTS FOR BOTH BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN. MEXICO MADE AN APPEAL FOR GREATER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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MEDITERRANEAN FORESTS--NOTING THE SHORTAGE OF FUNDS WORLDWIDE, FOR RESEARCH PROGRAMS.

9. A MEETING ON TEMPERATE ZONE FOREST PROBLEMS WILL BE HELD IN APRIL 1976 IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

10. PROJECT 3 - GRAZING LANDS. ALL BUT TWO COUNTRIES EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN THE IMPACT OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES

AND LAND USE PRACTICES ON GRAZING LANDS. MOST OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PLEADED FOR RESEARCH, ASSISTANCE, AND METHODOLOGY FOR APPLICATION OF RESULTS THAT WOULD PRODUCE MORE PROTEIN FOR THEIR PEOPLE.

11. FOR THE FIRST TIME A JOINT SECRETARIAT OF UNESCO

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AND FAO ACTED TOGETHER ON DEVELOPING A MAB PROGRAM FOR GRAZING LANDS IN ARID AND SEMI-ARID REGIONS.

12. PROJECT 4 - IRRIGATED LANDS. MOST OF THE SAME COUNTRIES INTERESTED IN PROJECT 3 EXPRESSED SIMILAR INTERESTS IN PROJECT 4 WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE BENEFITS IRRIGATION CAN BRING TO THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST WAS THE USE OF IMPOUNDMENTS AND PUMPING OF UNDERGROUND WATER SUPPLIES TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

13. PROJECT 5 - ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES ON ESTUARIES AND COASTAL ZONES. MOST COUNTRIES HAVE DIVIDED INTO TWO SUB-PROJECTS: ONE CONCERNED WITH CONTINENTAL WATERS AND THE OTHER WITH MARINE WATERS.

14. MOST COUNTRIES INDICATED AN INTEREST IN ONE OR BOTH PROJECTS. AUSTRIA RECOMMENDED THAT A STUDY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED ON A SELECTED SOUTHERN EUROPE RIVER SYSTEM.  
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15. THE U.S. DESCRIBED PLANS CONCERNED WITH BOTH FRESH AND MARINE WATER PROBLEMS, DESIGNED TO FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES THAT WILL PROVIDE A SUSTAINED YIELD OF FRESH WATER.

16. U.S. ALSO DESCRIBED PLANS FOR EROSION CONTROL AND NOTED WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO RESPOND TO THE CHALLENGE OF DETERMINING HOW THE LIVING RESOURCE PRODUCTIVITY OF ESTUARIES, DELTAS AND COASTAL ZONES CAN BE MAINTAINED OR INCREASED WHILE PERMITTING CONCOMITANT LAND USE, TRANSPORTATION, NAVIGATION AND MINERAL ENERGY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT.

17. PROJECT 6 - MOUNTAIN AND TUNDRA ECOSYSTEMS. THE SECRETARIAT DESCRIBED PROJECT 6 AS THE MOST ADVANCED AND THE MOST INTERNATIONALLY ORGANIZED. PROGRAMS ARE IN PROGRESS IN THE ANDES, ALPS, PYRENEES, AND ROCKY MOUNTAINS. NEPAL PLANS TO SEND IN A PROPOSAL SOON FOR THE HIMALAYA MOUNTAIN AREA, AND NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA ARE DEVELOPING PROGRAMS IN THEIR COUNTRIES AND IN NEW GUINEA.

18. NOTE WAS MADE OF A U.S. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT MEETING IN BOULDER, COLORADO, AND THE RESULTING PROGRAM. ALSO, MENTION WAS MADE OF A NEW REPORT PUBLISHED ON TUNDRA RESEARCH AND RECONNAISSANCE IN PRUNDHOE BAY, ALASKA, PRODUCED BY THE US ARMY COLD REGIONS RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING LABORATORY.

19. PROJECT 7 - ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS. FRANCE AND SECRETARIAT PRIVATELY EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE U.S. HAD NOT SUBMITTED A PROJECT ON THE ECOLOGY AND RATIONAL USE OF ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS. THERE WAS A GENERAL EXPRESSION THAT THE ISLAND ECOSYSTEM STUDY COULD SERVE AS A MICROCOSM OF MAN IN HIS BIOSPHERE AND SERVE, BY EXTRAPOLATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS, IN FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS OF CONTINENTS, METROPOLISES, AND RURAL AREAS.

20. PROJECT 8 - BIOSPHERE RESERVES. SEVERAL COUNTRIES

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ANNOUNCED PLANS TO ESTABLISH BIOSPHERE RESERVES AND COUNCIL APPROVES PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION OF AREAS. THE ROLE OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES IN RESEARCH AND MONITORING REAFFIRMED BY THE COUNCIL. UNESCO AND IUCN TO PREPARE JOINT PUBLICATION TO HELP EXPLAIN BIOSPHERE RESERVES RELATION TO EXISTING PROTECTED AREAS SUCH AS NATIONAL PARKS. IUCN REAFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR MAB 8, AS BIOSPHERE RESERVES ARE CONSIDERED TO COMPLEMENT NATIONAL PARKS, AND OFFERS SUPPORT TO COUNTRIES FOR ESTABLISHMENT.

21. COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED AND SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION GROUP OF UNESCO, UNEP, FAO AND IUCN REPRESENTATIVES FOR COORDINATING CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS.

22. PROJECT 9 - SEVERAL NATIONS INDICATED INTEREST IN PROJECT 9 WHICH IS CONCERNED WITH "ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF PAST MANAGEMENT AND FERTILIZER USE ON TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS." EGYPT EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RESEARCH ON PESTICIDES USED IN COTTON PRODUCTION. OTHER COUNTRIES EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE OVER-USE OF PESTICIDES

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AND FERTILIZERS AND THE NEED TO CAREFULLY COORDINATE  
THE NEED FOR CHEMICALS IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND  
THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION EFFORTS.

23. IN THE US,ACTIVITY UNDER PROJECT 9 WILL, FOR THE  
IMMEDIATE FUTURE, BE RESTRICTED TO RESEARCH AND TRAINING  
IN PESTICIDES WITH EMPHASIS ON USE-MANAGEMENT.

24. PROJECT 10 - ENGINEERING WORKS. BRIEF DISCUSSION  
CONCERNED WITH NEED FOR ASSESSMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
EFFORTS OF WATER IMPOUNDMENTS. THIS PROJECT HAS NOT  
RECEIVED EMPHASIS GENERALLY SINCE IT WAS NOT INCLUDED BY  
THE ICC IN ITS PRICRITY PROGRAMS.

25. PROJECT 11 - URBAN ECOSYSTEMS. CONSIDERABLE INTERE-  
ST WAS EXPRESSED BY CANADA AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF  
WEST GERMANY ON THE ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF URBAN SYSTEMS,  
WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON ENERGY UTILIZATION. THE US  
EXPRESSED INTEREST IN STUDYING THE FLOW OF WATER FROM SOURCE TO  
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CONSUMPTION, TREATMENT, AND DISPOSAL WITH ENERGY USE OF  
PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE. MANY COUNTRIES WERE INTERESTED IN  
THIS APPROACH AND FAVORABLY RESPONDED TO THE US  
SUGGESTION OF PARTICIPATING IN THE EFFORT TO STANDARDIZE  
CRITERIA AND MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES.

26. PROJECT 12 - DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES. NUMBER OF  
ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED WHICH WAS INTEGRATED INTO OTHER  
PROJECT AREAS AND DEAL WITH HUMAN ASPECTS, E.G.  
INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND THEIR RELATION TO  
CARRYING CAPACITY IN MOUNTAIN AREAS AND TROPICAL FORESTS.  
COUNTRIES ALL AGREED ON NEED FOR INCORPORATION OF  
SOCIOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES IN ALL PROJECTS, AS  
BASIS FOR PRACTICAL PROGRAMS, WHOSE RESULTS WILL BE  
USEFUL TO DECISION-MAKERS.

27. PROJECT 13 - PERCEPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.  
IN BRIEF DISCUSSION BECAUSE OF TIME SHORTAGE, CANADA

DESCRIBED JOINT CANADIAN-US PROJECT AND PLANS FOR WORKSHOP RELATED TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS CONFERENCE. FRG DESCRIBED ITS PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND FOR FIRST TIME LDC'S EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PROJECT. MEXICO HAS ACTIVITY UNDERWAY TO DETERMINE SOCIOLOGICAL VIEWS OF CHILDREN ON THEIR ENVIRONMENTS.

28. PROJECT 14 - POLLUTION EFFECTS. SECRETARIAT OUTLINED SERIES OF MEETINGS LEADING TO DEFINITION OF THIS PROJECT WHICH WILL BE CONCERNED WITH POLLUTANTS AND THEIR EFFECTS ON TERRESTRIAL AND ASSOCIATED FRESH WATER ECOSYSTEMS. ALL INTERVENTIONS SUGGESTED NEED FOR INCLUSION OF POLLUTION PROBLEMS IN OTHER PROJECTS FROM BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. BRIEF BUT LIVELY DISCUSSION OCCASIONED BY CANADA WHICH QUESTIONED INCLUSION OF POLLUTANT MONITORING IN THIS PROJECT. US SUPPORTED CANADIAN SUGGESTION WHICH REGARDS PROJECT 14, BUT POINTED OUT RELATION OF MAB PROGRAM AND BIOSPHERE RESERVES TO UNEP/GEMS. SECRETARIAT REITERATED STOCKHOLM RECOMMENDATION ASSIGNING MAB RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLLUTANT EFFECTS ON ECOSYSTEMS AND MENTIONED ITS PARTICIPATION IN INTERAGENCY GEMS MEETINGS. SECRETARIAT HASNOT HAD CAPABILITY TO DEVELOP MAB COMPONENT OF GEMS UNCLASSIFIED

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BUT ANTICIPATES GIVING CONSIDERATION TO THIS MATTER AS SOON AS UNEP CLARIFIES ITS INTENTIONS CONCERNING GEMS.  
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## Message Attributes

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